GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:349
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2006
ASSISTANCE TO BACKWARD STATES UNDER A.I.B.P.
Moghe Shri Krishna Murari;Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria prescribed for providing assistance to the States under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP);

(b) whether the criteria for providing such assistance to the hilly States are different;

(c) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any proposal to provide Central assistance to Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka on the lines of the hilly States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART(a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 349 FOR ANSWER ON 21-08-2006 REGARDING ASSISTANCE TO BACKWARD STATES UNDER A.I.B.P.

(a) Criteria for providing assistance as per prevailing AIBP Guidelines is enclosed at Annexure-I.

(b) & (c) There is no separate criteria for hilly states. However, hilly states of Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttaranchal in addition to North Eastern States and Projects benefiting Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput districts of Orissa are categorized as Special Category States/region for providing CLA under AIBP.

The CLA to special category States/region is provided in the ratio of 3:1

(Centre : State) as against 2:1 (Centre : State) for non-Special Category States. Central assistance is provided in the ratio of 90:10 (Grant : Loan) as against 30:70 (Grant : Loan) provided to non-Special Category States. The projects in drought-prone and tribal area in non-Special Category States (to be identified in consultation with Planning Commission) are also eligible for funding as provided to the Special Category States.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

ANNEXURE-I

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.349 for answer on 21.8.2006 regarding Assistance to Backward States under AIBP.

MODIFIED GUIDELINES FOR THE ACCELERATED IRRIGATION BENEFITS PROGRAMME EFFECTIVE FROM 1.4.2005 MAJOR & MEDIUM IRRIGATION PROJECTS

A) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR FUNDING

1. Only approved major and medium irrigation projects i.e. projects which have been accorded investment approval by the Planning Commission, which are in an advanced stage of construction and can be completed in the next four (4) financial years and which are not receiving any other form of assistance (NABARD, external aid, etc.) can be considered for inclusion in the programme. Components of projects not receiving other assistance can also be included under the programme. To avoid thin spreading of resources, State Governments will have to concentrate only on a few promising projects.

2. Only on completion of one project under the programme, inclusion of another project will be considered. However, Fast Track Projects and pre Fifth and Fifth Plan projects can be included under this programme without this stipulation.

3. For the KBK districts of Orissa, projects even in the initial stage of construction can be included.

4. The following categories of projects will get priority for inclusion in the programme:

(i) projects benefitting tribal/ drought prone areas

(ii) inter-State projects (All party States will be eligible individually for assistance).

(iii) projects with larger irrigated area per unit of additional investment.

5. For large projects, assistance will be given for their phased completion so that additional benefits can start flowing early. Projects on which more than 50% of the estimated cost has been incurred will be given priority.

6. Extension, Renovation, Modernisation (ERM) projects can be included subject to following conditions:

(a) can be permitted in States which have no major or medium projects to pose under AIBP and have thus not been availing AIBP.

(b) can be permitted as follows:

(i) in States which have agreed to reform in water sector i.e. step up water rates to enable meeting full O&M cost over 5 years. (So far only Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa and Jharkhand have signed necessary MoU).
OR

(ii) in States which have enacted Participatory Irrigation Management legislation.
OR

(iii) for ERM projects where new potential is also envisaged with water saved and not merely restoration of lost potential. To ensure that funds do not flow only to ERM projects, not more than 10% of aggregate annual allocation under AIBP will be for ERM and 90% will thus be for completion of major and medium projects.

7. State Governments will be required to enter into a MoU with the MoWR for each individual project under the programme indicating balance cost, balance potential, year-wise phasing of expenditure and balance potential and agreement to complete the project in 4 financial years with target completion date.

SURFACE MINOR IRRIGATION SCHEMES

(A) ELIGIBLITY CRITERIA FOR FUNDING

1) Surface Minor Irrigation(MI) Schemes (both new as well as ongoing) of States of North-East, Hilly States (Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim , Jammu and Kashmir and Uttaranchal) and drought prone KBK districts of Orissa which are approved by State TAC/State Planning Department will be eligible under the programme. However, the State Government should submit only those proposals where the individual schemes are benefiting irrigation potential of at least 20 ha. and group of schemes (within a radius of 5 km) benefiting total ultimate irrigation potential of at least 50 ha. The proposed MI schemes should have benefit cost ratio of more than 1 and the development cost of these schemes per ha. should not exceed Rs.1.00 lakh.

2) For Non-Special category States, only those Minor Irrigation Schemes with potential more than 100 hectare with preference to Tribal Areas and drought prone areas which wholly benefit dalits and adivasis are to be included under AIBP. The State Government would give an undertaking for their completion on schedule in two financial years, beneficiary contributing 10% in cost and formation of Water Users Association (WUA) for post-construction maintenance. The schemes to be taken up will be decided in consultation with Planning Commission.

3) The other conditions to be satisfied are

i) State Governments will be required to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for each individual/group of schemes under the programme with MoWR indicating balance cost, balance potential, year-wise phasing of expenditure and agreement to complete the scheme in two financial years with target of completion date.

ii) The projects which are already receiving assistance from external/domestic agencies such as NABARD will not be eligible for Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under the programme.